

THE PROMISE OF PREVENTION



1961 ANNUAL REPORT

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

*Member National Health Council
Accredited by National Information Bureau*

OFFICERS

The Hon. Lewis W. Douglas
Honorary President

Homer Folks <i>Honorary Vice-President</i>	*Lester Brion <i>Vice-President</i>
Helen Kcller <i>Honorary Vice-President</i>	*Mrs. Edward Forman <i>Vice-President</i>
*Mason H. Bigelow <i>Chairman of the Board</i>	*Brittain F. Paync, M.D. <i>Vice-President</i>
*Enos Curtin <i>President</i>	*Eugene M. Geddes <i>Treasurer</i>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John W. Avirett, 2d	*Mrs. Edward Forman	Clifford W. Michel
Mrs. Robert S. Baynard	Frank F. Fowle	Frank W. Newell, M.D.
William L. Benedict, M.D.	Judge Henry J. Friendly	*J. E. Nichols
*Conrad Berens, M.D.	Wilfred E. Fry, M.D.	*Jansen Noyes, Jr.
*Mason H. Bigelow	Edwin E. Garrett, M.D.	R. Townley Paton, M.D.
Eugene M. Blake, M.D.	*Eugene M. Geddes	*Brittain F. Payne, M.D.
*Lester Brion	Edward R. Granniss	Richard K. Paynter, Jr.
John P. Broderick	*Leonard Greenburg, M.D.	Mrs. Eugene C. Pulliam
Mrs. Austen G. Brown	Edward V. Gross	Algernon B. Reese, M.D.
George T. Brown	*Robert F. Irwin, Jr.	Rev. Alphonse M.
Mrs. Dorothy Bryan	*Thomas H. Johnson, M.D.	Schwitalla S.J.
James Carey	Robert P. Kelsey	Robert N. Shaffer, M.D.
Stewart P. Coleman	*David O'Donnel Kennedy	Charles Sheard, Ph.D.
*Enos Curtin	Willis S. Knighton, M.D.	Homer E. Smith, M.D.
Arthur Gerard DeVoe, M.D.	Leslie W. Knott, M.D.	Joseph S. Stein
*John H. Dunnington, M.D.	A. E. Maumenee, M.D.	Russell L. Stimson
*Edwin B. Dunphy, M.D.	John M. McLean, M.D.	George M. Wheatley, M.D.
Ralph E. Dwork, M.D.	*Winfield I. McNeill	John Wilkie
*Walter K. Earle	*Clarence G. Michalis	Pauline Brooks Williamson
*Member Executive Committee		Stanley F. Withe

EXECUTIVE STAFF

John W. Fcree, M.D.
Executive Director

Mrs. Virginia Smith Boyce <i>Assistant Executive Director</i>	John L. Wallace <i>National Development Director</i>
John D. Coleman <i>Director of Public Information</i>	John J. McMahon <i>Asst. Director of Public Information</i>
Frederic S. Weisenheimer, Ed.D. <i>Director of Field Services</i>	James E. O'Neil <i>Director of Industrial Service</i>
Helen Gibbons <i>Consultant in Education</i>	Mrs. Elizabeth M. Hatfield <i>Consultant in Statistics</i>
Lena A. Hevey, R.N. <i>Nursing Consultant</i>	Mrs. Ruby M. Hopkins <i>Dir. of Field Demonstration Center</i>
Carolyn Hays <i>Field Representative</i>	Elizabeth Marvin <i>Field Representative</i>
Franklin W. Ruthcrford <i>Business Manager</i>	Florence Nelson <i>Editor</i>

Regina E. Schneider
Secretary

To Our Volunteers, Contributors and Friends...

Fulfilling the promise of prevention of needless blindness is no short-term assignment. Even in this day of significant and multiplying medical victories over many of mankind's oldest ailments, the battle against loss of vision seems destined to be long fought. Nevertheless, the goal of prevention continues to shine on the horizon—its value more fully realized in the demanding struggle for attainment.

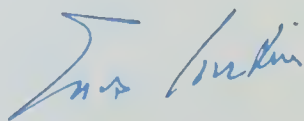
To meet the challenge, the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness must undertake immediate and diverse projects in its program areas. In the report following, we compare the goals and achievements of 1961. For the year we sought to intensify research, improve educational programs, expand preventive services, and accelerate efforts for winning identification and community support for sight-saving activities.

Prominent in the summary of progress is the organizational and physical expansion of the Society. Last fall, the NSPB headquarters was relocated in quarters permitting more efficient and economical use of office space. The merger with the Ophthalmological Foundation, a voluntary health organization specializing in research and education on blinding eye diseases for three decades, greatly enhanced the ability to develop additional research and detection programs. Procedures and policies for streamlining the organization and relationships of state divisions of the Society grew out of the work of an enthusiastic Ad Hoc Program Review Committee resulting in marked growth in the development of state societies. New programs in education and community preventive services were developed in Arizona, Kentucky, Montana, Nevada, Utah, and Mississippi. In later pages, advances in the Society's education and preventive services will be recounted.

In the United States today, we have more than 392,000 people who are blind—half of them needlessly. Another 1,315,000 are threatened with blindness from glaucoma, the "sneak thief of sight," and half of them are not aware of it. More than 10 million American school children need some form of eye care and eye accidents imperil the vision of nearly 141,000 youngsters annually.

As tragic as these figures are, they become doubly shocking when we consider them in the light of this nation's potential for preventing blindness. *One out of every two cases of blindness can be prevented*—just by employing sight-saving knowledge we already possess. As you study this report, I know you will realize that the Society's purpose was never more vividly apparent, and that it needs your continued and generous support.

Sincerely,



ENOS CURTIN



Enos Curtin
President

THE POB STORY

...a promise of prevention

The history of the prevention of blindness movement has not yet outlived those children of the 1880's, tiny victims of ophthalmia neonatorum or "babies sore eyes", whose plight inspired the first sight-saving crusade in the country. A Buffalo, N.Y. ophthalmologist, Dr. Lucien Howe, was the first to alert the public to the problem of ON and in 1890 spurred the state legislature to pass legislation requiring midwives to report such cases in the newborn to local health authorities. While other states passed similar laws, they were to prove ineffective and as late as 1906, ON was responsible for 28 per cent of new admissions to schools for the blind.

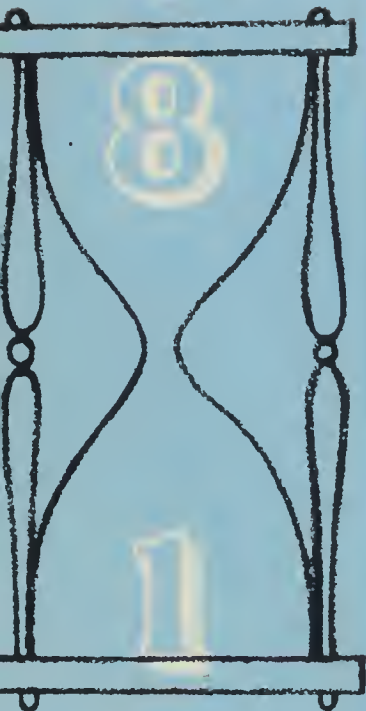
In 1903, a commission set up by the New York State Medical Society and headed by Dr. Park Lewis, also of Buffalo, undertook a study on the condition of blindness in New York. This commission's report, produced four years later, was to come into the energetic hands of Miss Louisa Lee Schuyler in New York City. A leader in many social welfare activities, Miss Schuyler was appalled by the caption "Needless Blind" beneath a photograph of pitiful blind tots. The incident so moved her that she contacted Dr. Lewis and together they enlisted the support of philanthropists, business leaders and professional men to conquer preventable blindness.

The New York State Committee for the Prevention of Blindness came into being in 1908, and was financed for some years by the Russell Sage Foundation on whose board Miss Schuyler served. With additional funds from the Rockefeller Foundation in 1915, the state committee became the National Committee. Thirteen years later the organization was incorporated as the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

The first major program activity of the POB movement—elimination of ophthalmia neonatorum—was one of its most dramatically successful. Through the Society's work, laws were enacted in every state requiring use of a prophylactic in the eyes of every newborn child. The disease has been virtually wiped out as a cause of blindness in the United States for many years, now causing only one-half of one percent of all blindness.

But the successes of the organization also came in other areas as a hasty glimpse of NSPB background will show:

- 1917 — Published the first report of eye hazards in industry.
- 1922 — Participated in the first course for teachers of sight-saving classes.
- 1926 — Took part in the first course on eye health ever offered industrial engineers.
- 1928 — Began the first demonstration of the importance of home visits in the care of glaucoma patients.
- 1930 — Prepared the first broad industrial program of eye safety based on a survey of 583 plants and factories.
- 1942 — Established the first national station for checking the accuracy of a tonometer, an instrument used to test for glaucoma.
- 1943 — Gave advisory service to 2,800 war plants employing 8 million war workers, under the auspices of the War Production Board.



- 1943 — Publication of first edition of *Education and Health of the Partially Seeing Child* by Winifred Hathaway, NSPB associate director.
- 1946 — Sponsored the study of the relationship between German measles and congenital cataracts.
- 1948 — Incorporated into its prevention of blindness activities, the Wise Owl Club of America, a national eye safety incentive program.
- 1949 — Published *Toxic Eye Hazards*, the first complete text on dangers to vision in the chemical industry.
- 1950 — Supported the first research project that linked dread retrolental fibroplasia (RLF), the leading cause of blindness among children in the 1940's, with the administration of high concentrations of oxygen to premature infants.
- 1951 — Produced the first film on glaucoma for educating the general practitioner on the urgent need for detecting early signs of the disease.
- 1956 — Initiated support of the development of equipment to test the vision of infants.
- 1958 — Selected by the federal government as one of the ten agencies to participate in the Federal Services Campaign for National Health Agencies.
- 1959 — Inaugurated annual national presentation of the Hathaway Award to honor the "Teacher of the Year for Partially Seeing Children."
- 1960 — Production of award winning film on eye safety "It's Up To You," now distributed in four languages for use around globe.

The sight-saving honor roll holds many illustrious names: Doctors Howe and Lewis, Miss Schuyler and Mrs. Hathaway. Along with them are the inspiring Helen Keller, honorary vice-president of the NSPB; Miss Linda Neville, the moving spirit of sight conservation in the Kentucky mountains; Dr. Conrad Berens, teacher and organizer; and a host of others who privately and publicly have blazed the trails in the conservation of sight.

NSPB history shows substantial progress in the control of some causes of blindness. The spectacular decrease in ophthalmia neonatorum, the discovery of means to prevent RLF in young eyes, and the 75 percent drop in infectious diseases as a major cause of blindness between 1935 and 1955. But in spite of these gains, the increase in population and years of life is boosting the numbers of needless blind.

More attention must be directed to those diseases of the older age groups such as diabetes, vascular conditions, glaucoma and cataracts which all too often result in blindness. Eye accidents that still pose visual threats to a half-million Americans each year must be prevented through all-out campaigns of public education. Research holds the key to saving the sight of future millions.

Guided by the wisdom borne of experience and moved by the record of past successes, the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness—with the aid and support of the American public—is confident it can meet the challenge.

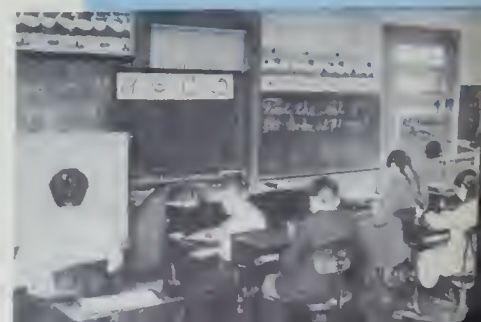


Early Preschool Screening—
Playing the "E" Game.



Hellen Keller, Hon. Vice President of NSPB
at her 75th birthday in 1955.

The First Class in the United States
Established Especially for Partially
Seeing Pupils, Boston, Mass. 1913.





Bob Hope, National Sight-Saving Campaign Chairman for 1961.

"61" A YEAR OF PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT

SIGHT-SAVING MONTH: Comedian Bob Hope, national chairman for September's Sight-Saving Month campaign, told the country: "The crusade to save sight is a crusade to prevent needless human tragedy. It deserves and requires the support of every American." More than 100,000 free informational publications were distributed on request to persons in the fifty states stimulated by Sight-Saving Month educational efforts. Requests were spurred by a full-page display in *Family Circle* magazine, use of NSPB recordings and films by hundreds of radio and television stations, and written materials in newspapers, magazines and house organs . . . The Society estimates that Sight-Saving Month messages reached two to three times more people in 1961 than ever before . . . The national program was again complemented with individual state society activities during September.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE: Nearly 400 delegates from 31 states, the District of Columbia, and two foreign countries attended the 1961 conference in New York City during April . . . Guest speaker at the conference was Eugene J. Taylor of the *New York Times* who spoke on "Health as a Tool of Diplomacy." The luncheon was one of the largest ever held in connection with an NSPB conference.

PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS: More than 1,600 physicians were screened for signs of glaucoma by the NSPB at the American Medical Association's convention in New York and the American Academy of General Practice in Miami, Florida . . . During the year the Society was also represented at meetings of the American Public Health Association, The American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Industrial Arts Association, American Standards Association, Illuminating Engineering Society and its Research Institute, the Council for Exceptional Children, the National Safety Congress, and the National Health Council.

ANNIVERSARY: The *Sight-Saving Review*, quarterly journal published by the National Society, celebrated its thirtieth anniversary during 1961. . . . The Review, which contains articles, notes, abstracts from periodicals, book reviews, and other information on the professional and lay aspects of sight conservation, was published in March 1931 . . . Since then it has published thousands of articles on visual health, scientific and medical advances, vision protection and safety, educational techniques, and NSPB programs.

TEACHER EDUCATION: Advanced workshops for qualified teachers of partially seeing children were offered at George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tenn., and Illinois State Normal University . . . The basic course on educating the partially seeing was taught at Syracuse University, University of Pittsburgh, Wayne State University, University of Minnesota, Los Angeles State College, San Francisco State College, Illinois State Normal and George Peabody. These courses received both staff and financial support from the National Society.

NSPB AWARDS: The Leslie Dana Gold Medal, presented by the St. Louis Society for the Blind for meritorious work in sight conservation for 1961 was awarded to Everett L. Goar, M.D., noted Texas ophthalmologist



Registration for Glaucoma Screening by NSPB at 1961 American Medical Association Convention.

NSPB Wise Owl Club Exhibit at an industrial safety conference.



and founder of the Texas Society for the Prevention of Blindness . . . Dr. Goar was the thirty-sixth recipient of the annual medal in which the National Society and the St. Louis Society for the Blind cooperate in selecting the recipient. The "Teacher of the Year for Partially Seeing Children" for 1961 was Miss Edna Woodward of Cincinnati, Ohio . . . A teacher of partially seeing pupils for more than three decades, Miss Woodward is the third winner of the national award in memory of Winifred Hathaway, late NSPB associate director and a pioneer in the field of education for the partially seeing.

POB COOPERATION: A special two-day meeting of the professional staff members of the NSPB and the Vision and Hearing Conservation Branch of the U.S. Public Health Service was held in New York in order to promote the elimination of overlapping and duplication of sight conservation efforts . . . Methods for working together more effectively and for an improved exchange of information were outlined . . . In other prevention activities, the National Society once again was fortunate to have the cooperation of interested organizations such as Lions International, Delta Gamma Fraternity, American Red Cross, Grey Ladies, Junior League, Nurses' Aides, Boy and Girl Scouts, the British Safety Council, and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

STATE VISITS: National Society personnel traveled to 31 states during the year for participation in workshops, conferences and staff and volunteer training programs. Subjects covered in these sessions included methods of conducting vision testing of preschool children, development of community glaucoma detection, educational services for partially seeing children, eye health in the school environment, preparation of teachers in eye health and safety, upgrading eye protection in schools and planning a community prevention program.

PUBLIC SUPPORT: For the first time in its history, the Society's income climbed above \$1,000,000 during 1961. A record number of 70,382 contributions allowed the NSPB to increase and intensify all phases of its sight-saving program.

PUBLIC INFORMATION: More than 1,100,000 copies of a new "First Aid for Eye Emergencies" sticker were distributed as part of the NSPB's enlivened information program . . . Other publications produced during the year included "Teaching About Vision," a handbook for elementary school teachers prepared by the Eye Health Committee of the American School Health Association; "20 Questions on Eye Safety" for industrial use; "Helping the Partially Seeing Child in the Regular Classroom," for the regular classroom teacher to assist the partially seeing child for whom specialized services are not available; "Vision Screening in Schools," NSPB recommendations on screening projects; and "Your Eyes for a Lifetime of Sight," a general information pamphlet . . . Four issues of the WISE OWL NEWS and two of the POB NEWS were printed in addition to the monthly copies of VIEWS, the Society newsletter.

FILMS: A Swedish soundtrack version of the award-winning eye safety film "It's Up To You" is in preparation to add to English, French and Spanish versions . . . During the year, 85 prints of "Crossroads at 4," the dramatized discovery of a young boy's latent amblyopia, were sold or rented for showing across the country . . . A film proposal for a picture on children's eye safety was drawn up by the NSPB.



Dr. R. J. Masters presenting the Leslie Dana Medal to Dr. Everett L. Goar, recipient for 1961.



NSPB establishes criteria for low vision aids clinics

"Knowledge is Light... Prevention Means Sight"... A selection of new public and professional publications.



TODAY'S ACTIONS ARE TOMORROW'S RESULTS

PRESCHOOL SCREENING: The wish of the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness is for a complete professional eye examination for every child entering school and at regular intervals during his school life. But until this becomes a reality, preschool and school vision screening programs are needed to help identify those youngsters with latent vision problems that could, if undiscovered, cost them precious eyesight.

During 1961, vision screening projects in 22 states manned by NSPB-trained volunteers checked more than 57,000 boys and girls for signs of eye trouble. Statistical studies show that one out of every four school children needs some form of eye care. Most learning comes through the sense of sight. Undetected eye problems can lead to study and personality problems for the child, and more serious, some eye defects, if untreated by the age of six, often lead to permanent loss of vision in the afflicted eye. Early detection and early correction are vital to remedying children's vision faults.

GLAUCOMA SCREENING: Glaucoma, the "sneak thief of sight," is attacking the vision of more than 1,315,000 Americans today. Half of these people are unaware that they have the terrible disease and unless discovered early and treated, they face a life of possible blindness. Intensified professional and public education to alert our nation's adult population to the need for regular examinations as the best defense against glaucoma is sought by the NSPB.

Glaucoma screening projects, carried on by the National Society and its state divisions and by allied groups dedicated to prevention of blindness, checked an estimated 100,000 Americans over 40 years of age for signs of glaucoma during 1961. Statistical studies, demonstrations of glaucoma testing to medical personnel, and information services to health educators, nurses, and medical social workers were stressed by the Society in the drive to alert the public.

CHILDREN'S EYE SAFETY: Protection against the 141,000 eye accidents that bring damage or destruction to young eyes annually is one of the Society's major activities. The school vision safety plan, proved effective in the Massillon, Ohio system, began to gain prominence in the safety thinking of other communities, and a year-long public education campaign warned parents and youngsters on the hazards of unsafe toys, weapons and games.

By the end of 1961, fifteen new members had been enrolled in the new Junior Wise Owl Club of America. Patterned on the senior organization, membership in the Junior Wise Owl Club is for those boys and girls from preschool age through high school who have saved their eyes with safety glasses at the time of a sight-threatening accident. The club recommends replacement of regular corrective lenses with shatter-resistant lenses for children who require glasses, and the use of protective equipment by youngsters engaged in any hazardous activity. Under field study in Connecticut is a new proposed program, the Early Bird Club, for encouraging the use of safety lenses for children who must wear glasses.



NSPB staff member training volunteers for community sight conservation program.



Ophthalmologists, nurses and community volunteers assist in NSPB sponsored glaucoma screening.



Charles Arntsen, President of the Connecticut Society, a Division of NSPB presenting Junior Wise Owl award to 11 year old James Liggett.

INDUSTRIAL SERVICE: The Society's industrial eye safety incentive plan—the Wise Owl Club—again recorded substantial gains in saving sight and new emphasis was placed on industrial vision testing—fitting the individual's visual capacities to the specific job. The Wise Owl Club chapter list grew to more than 3,000 plants employing 4.6 million workers. With the enrollment of 2,375 new members during the year, the Club now has 22,998 men and women who have actually saved their eyes from damage or destruction by wearing eye protection at the time of an on-the-job accident.

To encourage off-the-job use of safety eyewear, Honorary Wise Owl memberships were offered to any Wise Owl Chapter employee who saved his eyes in a mishap away from work. Among the first 13 Honorary Members inducted in 1961 was a woman whose vision was saved by her safety glasses in an auto accident on the way home from her job. The Society continued its cooperation with the American Standards Association which is seeking to set standards for ophthalmic lenses and glazing materials for automobiles. The main target continues to be the reduction of the needless 300,000 industrial eye accidents every year.

PARTIALLY SEEING: A vigorous effort to elevate the standards and expand the facilities and services for education of the partially seeing continued during the past year. The National Society had recorded an 11 per cent increase during the past five years in the number of partially seeing children being served with proper educational facilities. Nevertheless, only 9,200 such pupils out of an estimated 85,000 total in the nation are gaining the benefits of necessary special programs.

The NSPB maintained its extensive contacts with teaching centers, governmental offices of education and allied specialized and voluntary groups in cooperative efforts for upgrading education for the partially seeing. It helped prepare a new illustrated booklet, "The Case for the Partially Seeing Child" and distributed it to educators, legislators and concerned officials throughout the nation. The Society's consultant in education also visited and evaluated services for the partially seeing in a number of locations last year.

RESEARCH: Support of clinical and laboratory investigations in the diagnosis and treatment of eye diseases and defects, and in statistical studies on the causes of blindness are continuing major functions of the National Society. During 1961, the Society's Committee on Basic and Clinical Research allocated (\$40,192.00) grants-in-aid to five new projects and five which had been supported previously. Subjects of the research investigations are related to acquiring new knowledge about the causes of uveitis, cataracts, viruses which attack various parts of the eye, management of diabetic eye trouble, and studies of tumors.

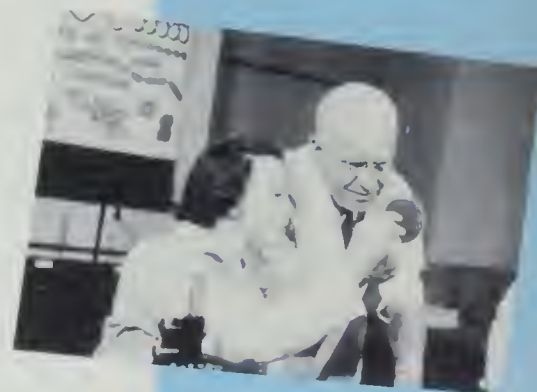
Financial aid from the E. Matilda Ziegler Foundation for the Blind has allowed the expansion of scientific research activities as in past years. In operational research, studies are under way to improve statistics on causes of blindness among children, to learn the incidence and nature of eye problems among preschool children, and to analyze the causes of industrial eye accidents. The National Society is participating in a Public Health Service project to develop a model area for reporting blindness and causes of blindness to a central agency.



Father-Daughter Sight-Savers: Tony Kraemer and his daughter, Robinette, of Racine, Wisc., compare the shattered safety glasses that won them a unique membership in the Wise Owl Club of America.



Resource room equipped with special desks, lighting and other aids for partially seeing pupils.



Basic, clinical and epidemiological research to meet the challenge of prevention of blindness.

FINANCIAL REPORT

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS, INC.

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 1961

	Combined	General Fund	Special Project, Designated and Restricted Funds	Reserve and Endowment Funds
Assets:				
Cash	\$ 213,813.53	204,590.52	7,259.38	1,963.63
Accounts receivable:				
Due from (to) other fund	—	1,110.89	—	(1,110.89)
Deposits and advances	3,432.30	3,432.30	—	—
Income from trust funds (not administered by the Society)	8,089.80	8,089.80	—	—
Due from chapters of the Society	15,635.78	15,635.78	—	—
Miscellaneous accounts receivable	53,736.78	5,093.80	—	48,642.98
Investment in bonds and stocks, at cost or fair value at date of acquisition in the case of gifts (market \$1,652,598.14)— (note 1)	955,140.44	—	—	955,140.44
Prepaid expenses	4,079.17	4,079.17	—	—
Total assets	1,253,927.80	242,032.26	7,259.38	1,004,636.16
Less accounts payable and accrued expenses	26,594.30	26,594.30	—	—
Net assets (representing fund balances)	\$ 1,227,333.50	215,437.96	7,259.38	1,004,636.16
Fund balances comprised of:				
General Fund	215,437.96	215,437.96	—	—
Restricted Funds (note 2)	4,728.07	—	4,728.07	—
Program Development Funds	1,069.97	—	1,069.97	—
Research Funds	1,461.34	—	1,461.34	—
Reserve Fund	955,415.63	—	—	955,415.63
Endowment Funds:				
General	44,720.53	—	—	44,720.53
The Francis M. Potter Brown Fund	4,500.00	—	—	4,500.00
	\$ 1,227,333.50	215,437.96	7,259.38	1,004,636.16

NOTES:

- (1) Securities which have a cost of \$191,089.85 have been deposited with an escrow agent in accordance with the lease agreement dated May 15, 1961.
- (2) These Restricted Funds may only be used for the prevention of blindness in the Detroit District.
- (3) The above statement does not include the following:
 - (a) Trust funds held for the benefit of the Society, but which are not administered by the Society.
 - (b) The Society's interest in various estates in the course of administration.
 - (c) Assets and liabilities of state chapters.
 - (d) Accrued income on investments.

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

The Board of Directors

National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, Inc.:

We have examined the statement of financial position of the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, Inc., excluding state chapters, as of December 31, 1961 and the related statement of income, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. As to contributions, memberships and income from state chapters, it was not practicable because of their nature to extend the examination beyond accounting, on a test basis, for the receipts as recorded.

Statement of Income, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Year ended December 31, 1961

	Combined	General Fund	Special Project, Designated and Restricted Funds	Reserve and Endowment Funds
Income:				
Contributions	\$ 871,268.41	421,852.80	9,922.00	439,493.61
Income from chapters	23,936.66	23,936.66	—	—
Subscriptions—"Sight Saving Review"	3,772.26	3,772.26	—	—
Sales of publications, vision testing charts, films and posters	22,981.64	22,981.64	—	—
Wise Owl Club	5,989.20	5,989.20	—	—
Royalties on sales of books	584.74	584.74	—	—
Income from investments	45,249.33	45,249.33	—	—
Income from trust funds (not administered by the Society)	29,235.54	26,513.11	2,722.43	—
	<u>1,003,017.78</u>	<u>550,879.74</u>	<u>12,644.43</u>	<u>439,493.61</u>
Expenditures:				
Research, \$66,519.53, plus provision for 1961 meeting rescheduled to 1962, \$5,000.00	71,519.53	62,591.53	8,928.00	—
Professional education and training	126,213.49	126,213.49	—	—
Community services	129,273.06	128,157.06	1,116.00	—
Public health education	140,062.62	138,377.14	1,685.48	—
Public information	84,876.40	84,876.40	—	—
Fund raising	137,258.00	137,258.00	—	—
Organization and program development	44,544.50	44,544.50	—	—
Administration, \$40,113, and expenses for office relocation incurred, \$50,269, provisional, \$1,000	91,382.00	91,382.00	—	—
	<u>825,129.60</u>	<u>813,400.12</u>	<u>11,729.48</u>	<u>—</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of income over expenditures	177,888.18	(262,520.38)	914.95	439,493.61
Other increases (decreases) in fund balances for year:				
Net assets received through consolidation with The Ophthalmological Foundation, Inc.	56,000.04	—	1,197.42	54,802.62
Net gain on sale of investments	113,160.94	—	—	113,160.94
Transfer prior year's restricted income from trust fund	—	(2,005.64)	2,005.64	—
Appropriation from the Reserve Fund to the General Fund	—	272,000.00	—	(272,000.00)
Increase for year	347,049.16	7,473.98	4,118.01	335,457.17
Fund balances at December 31, 1960	880,284.34	207,963.98	3,141.37	669,178.99
Fund balances at December 31, 1961	\$ 1,227,333.50	215,437.96	7,259.38	1,004,636.16

The income, expenditures and resources of the state chapters of the National Society are not included in the accompanying statements nor were the financial statements of such chapters examined by us.

In our opinion, the accompanying statement of financial position and statement of income, expenditures and changes in fund balances present fairly the financial position of the Society, excluding state chapters, at December 31, 1961 and the summary of fund transactions for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

New York, N. Y.
March 9, 1962

Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co.

"The crusade to save sight is a crusade to prevent need-
less human tragedy. It deserves and requires the support
of every American."

BOB HOPE
National Sight-Saving Chairman

HOW YOU CAN HELP PREVENT BLINDNESS!

1. *Plan each year to support the National Society as generously as you are able. During 1961 a record number of 70,382 gifts were received from people interested in preventing unnecessary blindness.*
2. *Consider a bequest for prevention of blindness when writing your will. Thanks to bequest income in 1961 the National Society's income exceeded \$1,000,000 for the first time in its 53 year old history. You can assure the Society of continuing financial support by using the following bequest form:*

"I give and bequeath to the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, Inc., a corporation under the laws of the State of New York, the sum of \$..... for its corporate purposes."

3. *There are many important sight saving projects which offer special gift opportunities, ranging from a few hundred dollars for an educational pamphlet, to several thousand dollars for long-range programs of research or program development. Information about these opportunities may be obtained from John W. Ferree, M.D., executive director of the National Society.*
4. *Guard your eyes and those of your family through regular eye examinations, especially after the age of 40 when glaucoma may become a threat to your sight. Children's eyes should be examined before they begin school to be sure that any defects discovered can be corrected in time.*

**GIFTS TO THE NATIONAL SOCIETY ARE CHARITABLE
CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEDUCTIBLE FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES**

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

16 East 40th Street, New York 16, New York



**TOMMY
HAS
TEN
EYES**





...YES TOMMY HAS TEN EYES...

and so do nearly 400,000 other Americans who are blind. They face a lifetime of "seeing" the world through their fingertips. To realize the urgency of the need for preventing blindness, try to imagine that every man, woman and child in a city the size of Louisville, Kentucky, were suddenly struck sightless. Disaster! would be the immediate nationwide lament. That these 400,000 blind are numbered in every community and every neighborhood in the country rather than just a single one makes our country's toll of blindness no less calamitous.

It is doubly tragic to know that half of these Americans need never have lost their precious eyesight. No new scientific discoveries or miracle cures were needed for them—just the simple application of sight-saving knowledge we already possess.

Through these pages, I hope you will come to learn what can be done to prevent needless blindness *right now* and how you can help.

ENOS CURTIN
President

**MORE THAN
1,000,000
AMERICANS
OVER FORTY
HAVE
GLAUCOMA**



The National Society estimates that 1,315,000 Americans are victims of glaucoma, *but only half are aware of it.* To reach them while there is still time, we must step up the community education and detection programs that have already saved the sight of thousands.



George D. has ten eyes. A busy manufacturing executive until last year, his vision was suddenly destroyed by glaucoma, the "sneak thief of sight." George had been too busy for a periodic eye examination.

Eyesight lost to glaucoma can never be regained. Characterized by increased pressure within the eyeball, glaucoma cannot be cured but can be controlled and further loss of sight prevented if it is detected in time. An eye checkup every two years, especially for those over 40, is the best defense against glaucoma.

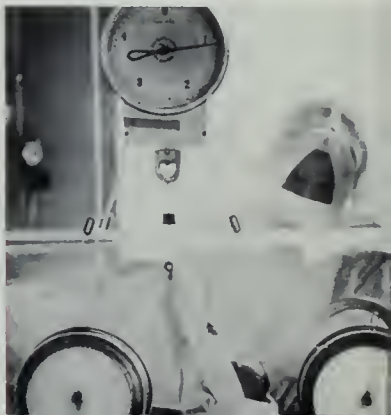


Tommy has ten eyes. A pupil in an elementary school for blind youngsters, he is a victim of the battle against dread retrolental fibroplasia. Unknown two decades ago, RLF suddenly became the leading cause of blindness among young children.

Intense investigation and research, with National Society support, discovered the relationship between RLF and uncontrolled use of oxygen in the treatment of premature babies. Following recommendations, established by competent authority for prescribing oxygen, can insure that RLF need never again cause damage to young eyes.

Since the National Society was formed in 1908 to fight the problem, blindness from babies' sore eyes at birth has been reduced by 98 percent. Health education for prospective mothers, use of prophylactic drops at birth, and correct use of oxygen can keep blindness from young eyes if vigilance is constant and unyielding.

**BLINDNESS
AT BIRTH
REDUCED
BY 98%**



**EARLY
DETECTION...
EARLY
CORRECTION**



Mike T. has ten eyes. A playmate's slingshot cost him his right eye when he was eleven. That's when the doctor also found out that an undiscovered case of amblyopia or "lazy eye" had claimed the vision in Mike's left eye.

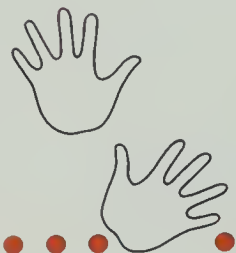
A childhood eye examination would have detected Mike's amblyopia while there was still time to correct it. Such visual defects, if not remedied by the age of six, often lead to permanent loss of vision in the affected eye. For Mike the discovery was too late.

Pre-school vision screening projects manned by NSPB-trained volunteers checked thousands of youngsters for vision problems last year. An eye examination for every pre-school youngster is a big but necessary goal in the crusade to save sight.

**2,990
EYES
SAVED IN
1961**



The Wise Owl Club, the National Society's industrial eye safety incentive program, recorded 2,990 eyes saved by protective equipment in on-the-job accidents during 1961. Now organized in Great Britain, Canada and New Zealand too, the Wise Owl program holds the key to guarding the vision of every worker everywhere.



Al W. has ten eyes. He was the roughest, toughest man at the foundry. That's why he never wore safety glasses; they were for the sissies. A splash of molten metal darkened his future.

Industrial vision accidents threaten 1,000 employees with blindness every working day of the year. More than 90 percent of this destroyed and damaged eyesight could be prevented through conscientious use of eye protection. Accidents don't always happen to the other guy.



Ralph H. has ten eyes. He was planning a future as a scientist before an explosion in his school laboratory cut short his plans. The full potential of his keen young mind will not be reached, a loss our nation can ill afford.

Eye accidents strike 140,000 young Americans every year. In the vocational arts class, in the lab, in the gymnasium, at work and at play, youngsters are faced with vision-threatening activities. Education for safety has not kept pace with the increasing demands on the eyes of our young.

The safety of the vision of the nation's youth is winning new emphasis in NSPB programs. An award-winning proven school eye safety plan and a Junior Wise Owl Club to encourage wearing of eye protection during risky tasks can stop the needless waste of precious young eyes.

**PREVENT
BLINDNESS
AT SCHOOL
AND AT PLAY**





CORRECTION

PARTIALLY SEEING CHILDREN

Of the estimated 85,000 partially seeing children of school age in this country, only 9,200 are receiving the proper special educational facilities necessary for them to use vision as the chief channel of learning. The National Society continues to enlist professional and public support for upgrading education of the partially seeing.

LOW VISION AIDS

For those thousands with deficient sight, including many senior citizens, the National Society sets criteria for low vision aids and the clinics that can make them available and useable to persons of all ages. Imperfect eyesight need not mean foregoing reading and other enjoyments.

RESEARCH

Grants-in-aid to support clinical and laboratory investigations in the diagnosis and treatment of eye disease and defects were made to ten research projects during the past year. Statistical studies to learn more about the causes of blindness are also a major function of the National Society.

EDUCATION

No method of professional and public education is left untried by the National Society in an effort to bring the sight-saving message to all. Printed materials, films, television, radio, displays, college courses, demonstration projects and medical exhibits all come into play effectively as allies in the prevention of blindness cause.

**KNOWLEDGE
IS LIGHT
...PREVENTION
MEANS SIGHT**





YOU ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT LINK IN PREVENTION

Your valued support makes our sight-saving programs possible. During 1961 important work was accomplished through the generosity of those who wished their good deeds to live on after them. You can assure the Society of continuing financial support by using the following bequest form:

"I give and bequeath to the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, Inc., a corporation under the laws of the State of New York, the sum of _____ for its corporate purposes."

Funds so willed become not only a living memorial to the giver but a lasting legacy of hope in the fight to prevent blindness. Inquiries will be welcomed by the National Society.

STATEMENT OF INCOME, EXPENDITURES 1961

INCOME

Contributions and Memberships	\$ 456,908
Publications, Wise Owl Club	
Memberships, Subscriptions, Royalties	33,328
Interest, Dividends, Trust Income	74,485
	<hr/> 564,721
Legacies	439,494
Gain from Security Transactions	113,161
Total Income	<hr/> <u>\$1,117,376</u>

EXPENDITURES

Research	\$ 71,520
Professional Educational Training	126,213
Community Services	129,273
Public Health Education	140,062
Publicity & Public Relations	84,876
Fund Raising	137,258
Organization & Program Development	44,545
Administration (including \$51,269 Office Moving, Renovation costs)	91,382
Total Expenditures	<hr/> <u>\$ 825,129</u>

<i>Excess of Income over Expenditures</i>	\$ 292,247
<i>Increase in Funds from consolidation of Ophthalmological Foundation Inc.</i>	54,802
<i>Funds Balances—December 31, 1960</i>	880,284
<i>Funds Balances—December 31, 1961</i>	<hr/> <u>\$1,227,333</u>

*The National Society's accounts are audited annually by
Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Company.*

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

OFFICERS

The Hon. Lewis W. Douglas
Honorary President

Homer Folks
Honorary Vice-President

Helen Keller
Honorary Vice-President

*Mason H. Bigelow
Chairman of the Board

*Enos Curtin
President

*Lester Brion
Vice-President

*Mrs. Edward Forman
Vice-President

*Brittain F. Payne, M.D.
Vice-President

*Eugene M. Geddes
Treasurer

John W. Ferree, M.D.
Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John W. Avirett, 2d
Mrs. Robert S. Baynard
William L. Benedict, M.D.

*Conrad Berens, M.D.

*Mason H. Bigelow
Eugene M. Blake, M.D.

*Lester Brion

John P. Broderick
Mrs. Austen G. Brown

George T. Brown

Mrs. Dorothy Bryan

James Carey

Stewart P. Coleman

*Enos Curtin

Arthur Gerard DeVoe, M.D.

*John H. Dunnington, M.D.

*Edwin B. Dunphy, M.D.

Ralph E. Dwork, M.D.

*Walter K. Earle

*Mrs. Edward Forman

Frank F. Fowle

Judge Henry J. Friendly

Wilfred E. Fry, M.D.

Edwin E. Garrett, M.D.

*Eugene M. Geddes

Edward R. Granniss

*Leonard Greenburg, M.D.

Edward V. Gross

*Robert F. Irwin, Jr.

*Thomas H. Johnson, M.D.
Robert P. Kelsey

*David O'Donnel Kennedy
Willis S. Knighton, M.D.

Leslie W. Knott, M.D.

A. E. Maumenee, M.D.

John M. McLean, M.D.

*Winfield I. McNeill

*Clarence G. Michalis

Clifford W. Michel

Frank W. Newell, M.D.

*J. E. Nichols

*Jansen Noyes, Jr.

R. Townley Paton, M.D.

*Brittain F. Payne, M.D.

Richard K. Paynter, Jr.

Mrs. Eugene C. Pulliam

Algernon B. Reese, M.D.

Rev. Alphonse M.

Schwitalla, S.J.

Robert N. Shaffer, M.D.

Charles Sheard, Ph.D.

Homer E. Smith, M.D.

Joseph S. Stein

Russell L. Stimson

George M. Wheatley, M.D.

John Wilkie

Pauline Brooks Williamson

Stanley F. Withe

* Member of Executive Committee

